

Atty Dkt. No.: 10010326-2
USSN: 09/919,555

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejections and allow Claims 1, 2, 4-16 and 45-54; the only claims pending and currently under examination in this application.

Claims 1, 2, 10, 47 and 48 have been amended to provide clarifying language that the method is a method of fabricating and using an array. In addition, the claims have been clarified to specify that the processing unit is present at a user station. Finally, the claims have been amended to include additional steps reading an array or processing data obtained from the read array. Support for all of these amendments can be found at page 16 lines 28 to page 29, line 17, among other locations. As the above amendments introduce no new matter and place the claims in condition for allowance, their entry by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

A number of new rejections were raised under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. It is believed that each of the issues raised by the Examiner have been addressed by the above amendments. As such, this rejection may be withdrawn.

The Examiner has maintained the rejection of Claims 1, 2, 4-16, 45-46 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Cattell (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0102559).

In maintaining this rejection, the Examiner has asserted that the claims still do not distinguish over the cited 2002/0102559 publication because the specific information that is saved and retrieved in the claimed methods is not to be afforded any patentable weight in view of the decision by the Board.

While in no way agreeing with the position of the Office and solely in order to expedite allowance of the present application, the claims have been amended to include the positive steps of performing at least one of:

(e) reading said array according to an algorithm of said one or more automatically selected machine readable algorithms; and

Atty Dkt. No.: 10010326-2
USSN: 09/919,555

(f) processing data from reading said array based on said retrieved array related data.

The Office has not pointed to any location of the 2002/0102559 publication that teaches these steps of the claimed method.

Accordingly, Claims 1, 2, 4-16, 45-46 are not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) by Cattell (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0102559) and this rejection may be withdrawn.

The Examiner has next maintained the rejection of Claims 1, 2, 4-16, 45-46 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Cattell (U.S. Patent No. 6,180,351).

In maintaining this rejection, the Examiner has asserted that the claims still do not distinguish over the cited 351 patent because the nature of the information that is saved and retrieved in the claimed methods is not to be afforded any patentable weight in view of the decision by the Board.

While in no way agreeing with the position of the Office and solely in order to expedite allowance of the present application, the claims have been amended to include the positive steps of performing at least one of:

(e) reading said array according to an algorithm of said one or more automatically selected machine readable algorithms; and

(f) processing data from reading said array based on said retrieved array related data.

The Office has not pointed to any location of the '351 patent that teaches these steps of the claimed method.

Accordingly, Claims 1, 2, 4-16, 45-46 are not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) by Cattell (U.S. Patent 6,180,351) and this rejection may be withdrawn.

Atty Dkt. No.: 10010326-2
USSN: 09/919,555

The Examiner has maintained the rejection of Claims 1, 2, 4-16, 45-46 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Perttunen in view of Ellison.

In maintaining this rejection, the Examiner has asserted that the claims still do not distinguish over the cited combination of Perttunen in view of Ellison because the nature of the information that is saved and retrieved in the claimed methods is not to be afforded any patentable weight in view of the decision by the Board.

While in no way agreeing with the position of the Office and solely in order to expedite allowance of the present application, the claims have been amended to include the positive steps of performing at least one of:

- (e) reading said array according to an algorithm of said one or more automatically selected machine readable algorithms; and
- (f) processing data from reading said array based on said retrieved array related data.

The cited combination of Perttunen in view of Ellison fails to teach or suggest these steps of the claimed method.

Accordingly, Claims 1, 2, 4-16, 45-46 are not obvious over Perttunen in view of Ellison under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and this rejection may be withdrawn.

Finally, Claims 45 and 46 continue to be rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Perttunen in view of Ellison, and further in view of Zelany (U.S. Patent No. 6,215,894).

As reviewed above, Perttunen and Ellison taken alone or in any combination, fail to teach or suggest at least the elements of:

- (e) reading said array according to an algorithm of said one or more automatically selected machine readable algorithms; and

Atty Dkt. No.: 10010326-2

USSN: 09/919,555

(f) processing data from reading said array based on said retrieved array related data.

Since Zelany is cited solely for its disclosure of including data on the presence or absence of a control probe, the cited combination still fails to make up the deficiency of the substance of the machine readable instructions of the claimed invention.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that since the cited combination of references still fails to teach an element of the rejected claims, they fail to render the claimed invention obvious. As such, the rejection of claims 45 and 46 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 may be withdrawn.

Atty Dkt. No.: 10010326-2
USSN: 09/919,555

CONCLUSION

The Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone John Brady at (408) 553-3584. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required by this paper, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1078.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

Bret E. Field
Registration No. 37,620

AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
Legal Department, DL429
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 7599
Loveland, Colorado 80537-0599

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